THE

# CRISIS

NUMBER XXVIII. To be continued Weekly

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1775. [Price Two-pence Half-penny.

By his Excellency THOMAS SHAW, PROTECTOR and DEFENDER of MAGNA CHARTA, and the BILL of RIGHTS.

## A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the infatuated Multitudes of Royal Neronian Dependants, Catamites, Pimps, and Parasites, too many to be enumerated; have long conducted themselves as PARRICIDES and TRAITORS in a fatal Progression of Crimes, against the Constitutional Liberties of the British Empire, and have at length proceeded to avowed and open Rebellion against the Laws of the Land, and the LIVES of Englishmen in *England* and *America*, and the good Effects which were expected to arise from the PATIENCE and LENITY of the People, have been often frustrated, and Remonstrance proved ineffectual and now rendered hopeless, from the Obstinacy and Cruelty of the SOVEREIGN, by the Influence of their infernal Counsels, and Confederacy, it only remains for the PEOPLE, who have the SUPREME POWER, as well for the Punishment of those guilty Parricides, as for the Protection of the Innocent, to prove they do not bear the SWORD in VAIN.

The

The Infringements which have been committed upon the ſacred Rights of MAGNA CHARTA and the People of *Great Britain* and *America*, are too many to enumerate on one Side, and all too atrocious, too infamous, and too diabolical to be palliated on the other. All un-prejudiced, un-penſioned, and un-placed Engliſhmen, who have been Witneſs, (or even heard) of the late Tranſactions, in this *Kingdom* and *America*, will find, upon a tranſiant Review, Marks of Premeditation and Conſpiracy to deſtroy the CONSTITUTION of the *Britiſh Empire*, that would Juſtify the fullneſs of CHASTISEMENT; and even thoſe who are leaſt acquainted with Facts, cannot fail to receive a Juſt Impreſſion of the Enormity, in proportion as they diſcover the Arts and Aſſiduity, by which their Bloody Deſigns have been falſified and concealed. Thoſe Parricides, the Authors of the preſent BLOODY Meaſures and un-natural Revolt from the Laws, never daring to truſt their CAUSE, or their ACTIONS, to the Judgment of an impartial Public, or even to the diſpaſſionate Reflection of their Followers and Adherents, have uniformly placed their chief Confidence in the Suppreſſion of TRUTH; and while indefatigable and ſhameleſs Pains have been taken to DESTROY the real Intereſt of the People of *England* and *America*, the groſſeſt Forgeries, Calumnies, and Abſurdities, that ever inſulted Human Underſtanding, have been impoſed upon their Credulity, by the KING, and thoſe Miſcreants. The Preſs, that diſtinguiſhed Appendage of Public Liberty, and when fairly and impartially employed, its beſt Support, has been invariably Proſtituted by thoſe Penſioned Raſcals, *Hume*, *Johnſon*, *Kelly*, *Shebbeare*, and other Miniſterial Hirelings, to the moſt contrary Purpoſes. The animated Language of Ancient and Virtuous Times, calculated to vindicate and promote the juſt Rights and Intereſts of Mankind, have been applied by the KING'S MINIONS, to countenance the moſt abandoned Violations of thoſe ſacred Bleſſings, and not only from the flagitious Miniſterial Prints, but from the ſlaviſh Harangues of proſtituted Peers, and venal Senators, Men have been taught to depend upon Activity in SHEDDING of BLOOD, for the Security of their PLACES, PENSIONS, and PERSONS, till to complete the horrid Profanation of Terms and of Ideas, the Name of GOD has been introduced in ADDRESSES and in the Pulpit, by a Groupe of rotten Popiſh Biſhops, to excite Devaſtation and Maſſacre.

The Minds of Men, ſuch as *Gage*, *Percy*, *Burgoyne*, *Clinton* and *Howe*, and the KING's Mercenary Soldiers, having been thus gradually prepared for MURDER, a Number of armed Troops to the Amount of *Eighteen Hundred*, and upwards, on the 19*th* of *April* laſt, at CONCORD, cowardly attacked about SIXTY peaceable

peaceable Americans, who not expecting ſo conſumate an Act of Savage Barbarity, unprepared for vengeance, and willing to decline it, made uſe of their Arms only in their own DEFENCE. Since that Period, the MERCENARIES, deriving Confidence from Impunity, have added Inſult to Outrage; have repeatedly fired upon, and barbarouſly killed many of their Fellow Subjects, with Cannon and ſmall Arms; and with a prepoſterous Parade of Military Arrangement, they try to frighten, and mean if poſſible to enſlave *America*, while Part of their Body make daily and indiſcriminate Invaſions upon Private Property, and with a Wantonneſs of Cruelty, peculiar in this REIGN, and ever incident to LAWLESS POWER, carry Depredation and Diſtreſs where ever they turn their Steps. The Action of the 19th of *April*, and the Cruel, Bloody, and Inhuman Circumſtances attending that Day's CARNAGE, are of ſuch Notoriety, as muſt baffle all Attempts to contradict them; and the Flames of Buildings, the Cries of helpleſs infirm Old Men, Women, and Children, wantonly ſlaughtered in COOL BLOOD, ſpread, and will for ever ſtand a Melancholy Confirmation of the ſubſequent Aſſertions.

In this exigency of *Neronian Cruelty* and complicated Calamities I avail myſelf of the laſt Efforts, within the Bounds of my Duty, as a peaceable Subject, to ſpare the Effuſion of Blood; to Offer, and I do hereby, in the Name of the WHOLE PEOPLE of *England* and *America*, Offer and Promiſe a moſt gracious PARDON, to all the Mercenaries who ſhall forthwith lay down their Arms, and return to the Duties of Peaceable Subjects and Faithful Engliſhmen, loyal to the Laws and the Conſtitution, excepting only from ſuch Pardon, *John Stuart, Earl of Bute*, and *William, Lord Mansfield*, the Authors and Promoters of Bloodſhed and Cruelty, whoſe Crimes are of too Flagitious a Nature to admit of any other Conſideration than that of Condign Puniſhment.

And to the End that no perſon within the Limits of this proffered Mercy may plead ignorance of the Conſequences of refuſing it, I by theſe preſents proclaim not only the Perſons above named and expected, but alſo their Adherents, Aſſociates, and abettors, meaning to comprehend in thoſe Terms, all and every Perſon and Perſons, of what Claſs, Denomination, or Deſcription ſoever, who have appeared in arms againſt the SACRED LAWS and CONSTITUTION of the Britiſh Empire, and ſhall not lay down the ſame as aforeſaid; and likewiſe all ſuch as ſhall ſo take Arms after the Date hereof, or who ſhall in any wiſe protect or conceal ſuch Offenders, or aſſiſt them with Money,

Proviſion

Proviſions, Cattle, Arms, Ammunition, Carriages, or any other Neceſſary for Subſiſtence or Defence, or ſhall hold ſecret Correſpondence with the MERCENARY MURDERERS, by Letter Meſſage, Signal or otherwiſe, to be Rebels and Traitors to the Britiſh Conſtitution, and as ſuch to be treated.

And whereas, during the continuance of the preſent BLOODY and UNNATURAL CIVIL WAR in America, Juſtice cannot be obtained by the common Law of the Land, the Courſe whereof has for a long time paſt been violently impeded, and wholly interrupted by the King and his Paracidial Minions and Military Cut-throats, from whence reſults a neceſſity, in Order tc preſerve the dear bought Rights of Engliſhmen and hallowed Conſtitution of the Empire, for uſing and exerciſing the *Lex Ialionis*, or Law of Retaliation; I have therefore thought fit by the Authority inveſted in me by MAGNA CHARTA as a FREEMAN, to Publiſh, and I do hereby Publiſh, Proclaim, and order the uſe and exerciſe of the *Lex Ialionis*, or Blood for Blood, within and throughout Great Britain and America, ſo long as the preſent unhappy occaſion ſhall neceſſarily require, till the Sons of Freedom ſhall gain a deciſive victory over TYRANNY and LAWLESS POWER, till each Parricide and Traitor ſhall be brought to the BLOCK or the GALLOWS, or otherwiſe fall a ſacrifice by the Hands of a much injured and enraged People, and till the Liberties of England and America are ſettled upon a ſure and laſting Foundation, not to be again ſhaken by any Tyrant of the Houſe of *Brunſwick*; whereof all true Engliſhmen are hereby required to take Notice, and ARM themſelves—with a Reſolution as well to maintain their Rights, as to reſiſt encounter, and ſubdue the Mercenaries and Traitors above deſcribed.

To theſe inevitable, but I truſt Salutary meaſures, it is of a far more pleaſing part of my duty to add the aſſurances of protection and Support to all who in ſo trying a Criſis ſhall manifeſt no allegiance to Tyrants, but an Affection for the ſacred conſtitution of their Country;—So that ſuch Perſons as may have been induced to join in the preſent Royal and Miniſterial Meaſures for deſtroying the Laws, Liberties, and LIVES of their fellow Subjects in America, may return to their reſpective callings and profeſſions, be no longer the Inſtruments of MURDER and PUBLIC RUIN, but ſtand diſtinct and ſeperate from the Parricides of the Conſtitution, till God in his mercy ſhall turn the Hearts of Tyrants, and reſtore Peace to this diſtracted Land, now polluted with INNOCENT BLOOD.

Given

Given at London, the 28th Day of July, in the 15th Year of the Tyrannical Reign of his Merciful M—— G—— the T—— Defender of the Romiſh Faith, Traitors, and Murderers, &c. Anno Domini, 1775.

THOMAS SHAW.

By his Excellency's Command,

Thomas Bradſhaw, Secretary.

# God Save AMERICA.

Notwithſtanding the Royal lying Gazette has given us an Account, ſigned by that BLOODY Monſter in Human Shape, *General Gage*, of another Maſſacre in *America*, on the 17th of June laſt, wherein this modern *Kirk* extolls his Officers and Mercenary Soldiers, ſtimulated by Liquor, and Promiſes of Plunder, to ſlaughter their Fellow Subjects, for their Valour and Bravery, and boaſts his having gained ſomething like a Victory, over the brave and virtuous *Americans*, fighting for LIBERTY, whom that Wretch calls *REBELS*; Yet the Public may depend this *pretended* Superiority of his Troops, Conduct of his Officers, and Mighty Victory is a LYE; and it will ſoon be proved, from unqueſtionable Authority, that he has loſt ſome Hundreds of his Men, more than is mentioned in the *Gazette* of *Tueſday* laſt, which contains the moſt notorious Falſhoods, and infamous Impoſitions on the Public, calculated to deceive the People here, and to *Spirit* up the few remaining Troops we have in England, to embark with the greater Readineſs to the Field of *Slaughter* in *America*, there to fall a juſt Sacrifice to the injured Laws, and glorious Liberties of the *Britiſh Empire*: It will likewiſe appear that General Gage's Army, with all the Advantage of Artillery, and the Aſſiſtance of ſeveral Ships of War, and armed Veſſels, was obliged to retreat to their Barracks and ſneaking Holes in Boſton, under Protection of the *Men* of War.

If it was ever neceſſary to rouſe the ſleeping Genius of England, to excite a generous Emulation of our warlike Forefathers, and to animate every Briton, by their Example, to fight valiantly, to conquer nobly, or periſh glorioufly in Defence of his Country —This is certainly the Time.

If

If it was ever neceſſary for the People of England to riſe altogether as one man, and fall like a torrent on the Bloody Tyrannical invaders of their Lives and Liberties, and overwhelm them in the midſt of their fancied inſolent ſecurity—it is ſurely at this time.

If it was ever neceſſary for the People to enter into an aſſociation, to expreſs and fully explain in a MANIFESTO the cauſes of their diſcontent; and to declare they take up Arms to put a ſtop to the encroachments of thoſe who Govern in the King's name; to bring to condign Puniſhment the betrayers of their Country; to preſerve their Rights and Liberties from farther violations; to reſtore the Laws and the Conſtitution now tottering to its baſe, to their priſtine rigour; to prevent the inhuman Slaughter of their fellow Subjects in America by the Hand of Lawleſs power; to enforce a due obedience to MAGNA CHARTA from the King and his Miniſters; to oblige his Majeſty to diſmiſs thoſe Parricides and Traitors who ſurround his Throne, and to reſtore the Ancient independence and freedom of Parliaments: If ſuch a meaſure was ever neceſſary to preſerve the People and Kingdom from Slavery and Ruin—It is NOW. But alas! It is (I fear) in vain to appeal to the reaſon or to the paſſions of Engliſhmen, they ſeem to have loſt their very nature and Genius they ſeem to have forgot the arts of War, and the bleſſings o Freedom; they have fatally degenerated into Luxury and Vice, and at laſt become inſenſible to every generous Sentiment of Public Liberty; they have loſt the Virtue, the courage, and Bravery of their glorious Anceſtors; and are now looked upon by ſurrounding Nations, as a Herd of Puſillanimous Drones, devoted to ſlavery, or doomed to Deſtruction.

N. B. The Authors of the CRISIS are anxious for the Welfare of their much-admired and ſpirited correſpondent CASCA, and hope to remove their Fears of his indiſpoſition, to hear from him ſoon.

Junius's Addreſs to the King has been fetched from the Place he directed.---The Apprehenſion *Junius* mentions in his private Letter to *T. W. Shaw* is groundleſs.---The Authors of the CRISIS are but too ſenſible, of the many ſhameful Blunders, and groſs Miſtakes, that have appeared in ſeveral Numbers of their Paper, entirely owing to the Careleſsneſs and inattention of the PRINTER.

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